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ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

SITUATION REPORT

DATE: 2022-02-10

FILE NAME: Project HENDON

Report#: 039-2022

Event: Freedom Convoy/BearHug 2.0

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The information in this report is current to 2022-02-10 at 1830 hours.

Owing to the current social protest landscape this Situation Report is organized into three main sections, each with specific information relevant to **Ottawa, Toronto, and Ontario**.

PREFACE: *The format of this Situation Report delineates between police information and information gathered through open sources. Media and social media information has been incorporated in this report towards developing all-source intelligence in support of providing greater context, and which may identify indicators, ideologies, and attitudes that could motivate subjects of interest and influence their behaviours.*

OTTAWA: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

The OPP continues to be engaged in this initiative with resources on the ground providing real-time updates and observations to the National Capital Region Command Centre – Combined Intelligence Group as events unfold.

- The OPP has reported the following from 2022-02-09:
 - There were still many families with children walking around.
 - A male was observed telling OPP POU “you guys better watch yourselves, they’re going to ask you to do something stupid, you might want to take the day off tomorrow”.
 - A trucker located at Rideau and Sussex stated they are aware police want the Rideau and Sussex intersection. They are also aware of where the federal boundaries are.
 - One counter-protestor on Wellington Street had a sign that said “you are hurting the residences of Ottawa, please go”. He was observed having discussions with Freedom Convoy supporters.

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- Better mood / atmosphere in the air today than yesterday.
- The far west end of John A. MacDonald Street has about 25-30 trucks parked, which is less than before.
- There's a large 53-foot trailer full of food at the corner of Lyon and Queen Street.
- There was a Hamilton Fire Fighter with his working uniform and badge on. He is carrying a Criminal Code in one hand, a large Canadian flag in the other, talking to everyone.
- One male carrying a sign that "Cops should get the Blue Flu".
- People are still delivering fuel in jerry cans.
- "Stand4Thee.ca" were passing out flyers to people in attendance, giving instructions on how to deal with the police. Web site giving instructions on what to do when one gets arrested.
- Observed a male wearing an HA Support hoody. It had the words "Support Red Power – T.R." (Trois Rivières) in the back.

OTTAWA: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

- Open source research has identified the following videos of:
 - [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in a convoy driving loops at the Ottawa International Airport and blocking the road. The caption on the video is "FREEDOM AIRLINES! NO MASK, NO VAXX, NO PROBLEM". The convoy appears to comprise passenger vehicles. [REDACTED] refers to having been denied a flight and having to hitchhike across Canada and says that TRUDEAU should have thought twice about not allowing him to fly. [REDACTED] also indicated that they are planning a "Freedom Festival" this summer in Alberta, as well as a convoy of motorcycles from all across Canada to Ottawa when road conditions permit.
 - An online commenter suggested that they should do slow rolls past schools. [REDACTED] agreed.
 - [REDACTED] says that the police are trying to "poke" to get a reaction from the protestors. He says that he got permission from the "higher-ups" to conduct the action on the morning of 2022-02-10. We infer that this is a reference to the convoy at the Ottawa airport.
 - "The Crackpot Farmer" claiming that people have infiltrated the protestors' ranks and are giving them disinformation. He reiterates the belief that the protestors are doing nothing wrong, and if the police come in force, this will start a worldwide riot. Indicates that the convoy leaders are putting disinformation on social media "to confuse the enemy" in retaliation for the authorities spreading disinformation amongst the protestors. He attributes previous social media-based disinformation (such as the government calling out the military) on the authorities. He states that the police are not big enough to handle the protestors. He mentions 1800 officers coming in and says that extra convoys are coming from across the nation for Friday night to help them out. He anticipates police enforcement Wednesday night and says that a media blackout is likely.

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- [REDACTED] states that a few provinces have already lifted the mandates, but that some are not. He states that when they are done in Ottawa, they have the resources to go to the provinces that have not lifted the mandates, starting with Quebec and then Manitoba, and then British Columbia.
- [REDACTED] says that an internet blackout and riot police are coming, possibly on Thursday. He states that police are probably listening and watching them online and that they have tapped all of the protestors' cell phones. He directs protestors to lock their doors and honk their horns if they see a large body of police coming in the night to alert everyone else that the enforcement action has started. He then says that they want to "fire some shit up".
- [REDACTED] films what he claims is the "detainment centre" on Slidell Street that Ottawa has set up to process protestors that have been arrested. He films a large building, which he describes as empty, and says that city buses have been rented to bring anyone arrested at the site.
- [REDACTED] states that "they are coming for us" and that the police have been ordered to clear the streets and will use all possible force. He also states that those arrested can sign a form to get out of custody, but then they have to leave city and not return. He states that for every truck driver who signs it, they will bring in three new drivers and makes a call for everyone to come to Ottawa. He then states that they need to "hold the line", as they have fractured the Liberal government fractured and the "provinces are falling".

TORONTO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- The Toronto Police Service continues to monitor social media in preparation for this coming weekend.

TORONTO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- Social media messaging is promoting a freedom convoy in Toronto planned for 2022-02-12. Messaging asking about the time and place was met with the response "you already know". One potential meeting place was messaged as Sherway Gardens near "Sports Check".¹
- Additional social media messaging has identified a call for everyone who opposes vaccine requirements to attend Queens Park on 2022-02-12.²

¹ Halton Regional Police Service

² Halton Regional Police Service

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AMBASSADOR BRIDGE:

- Protestors continue to block or attempt to block roadways at and around the bridge.
- Windsor Police arrested one male for dangerous driving – no further detail.
- OPP assisting Windsor Police Service with traffic control and response.
- 20-25 vehicles blocking southbound Huron Church – mostly pickup trucks, less than 6 tractor-trailers.
- Protestors overwhelmed intersection at Wyandotte and Patricia where some vehicles were able to access the bridge: Trucks backed up and spilling over into neighbouring streets. Pedestrians also blocking vehicular access to bridge.
- Social media information suggests that protestors may try to obstruct tow trucks at the site: possible intent to use knives, remove vehicle tires; veiled threats to tow truck operators
- Social media information shows media harassed by protestors; increased hostility towards police

BLUE WATER BRIDGE:

- Farm tractors remained in makeshift camp at HWY 402 and Forest Road. HWY 402 westbound remains closed between Nauvoo and Oil Heritage.
- Social media chatter about organizing another attempt and to spread more misinformation to keep OPP reactive and off balance.
- No protestors at the bridge and traffic flow is normal.
- Social media messaging is promoting a convoy of US trucks that may block the border at Port Huron on 2022-02-12.

PEACE BRIDGE:

- Traffic volumes returned to normal at approximately 0300 hours.
- Social media messaging suggests that convoys from Stoney Creek and Niagara-on-the-Lake may attend the Peace Bridge on 2022-02-12.

NIPIGON RIVER BRIDGE:

- OPP reporting has identified potential convoys and protests in North West Region, including a potential protest at the Nipigon River Bridge. OPP continues to monitor.

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ONTARIO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- Messaging on social media for Randy HILLIER indicates that the Peace Bridge will be shut down this weekend.

ONTARIO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- Open source information indicates that a protest may be planned for the Hamilton residence of Andrea HORVATH, leader of the provincial NDP, on 2022-02-11 between 1700-1900 hours.

OTHER

- Messaging on social media for Chris SKY (a.k.a. [REDACTED]) indicates that he is collecting donations of money and supplies to support the blockade at Coutts, Alberta.
- The new fundraiser on GiveSendGo has raised almost \$8.5 M USD and a Bitcoin wallet for the blockade contains almost \$900,000 CAD. The ADOPT A TRUCKER account on GiveSendGo has raised over \$676,000 CAD.
- Open source research has identified PAYPAL, NETELLER and LINK as additional donation streams.
- Media reporting indicates that commercial truck drivers in the US are planning to begin their own convoys.

ASSESSMENT

Recent actions and statements of intention by blockade organizers and supporters indicate an intent to create as much disruption as possible to transportation infrastructure as a pressure tactic on both government and police. Jurisdictions across the province should expect organized and spontaneous protests, convoys and blockades at critical transportation hubs such as roadways, railway stations, airports, maritime ports, and border points. Ongoing communication amongst all stakeholders across a range of jurisdictions will be critical to identifying and mitigating the effects of any such actions.

[REDACTED] comment regarding obtaining consent to conduct the slow roll at the Ottawa airport suggests the existence of a core group of decision makers regarding some tactics or actions. Based on previous reporting and observations, this core group is likely to include [REDACTED]

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Protest organizers and participants are convinced that a forceful police action will be carried out during the night of 2022-02-10 or 2022-02-11. Their online comments indicate an awareness of police online monitoring, which they are likely countering through the use of online disinformation.

Protest organizers are attributing the lifting of restrictions in some provinces to their protest. This perceived success will likely result in a hardened resolve amongst the protestors and their supporters.

Additionally, organizers have stated an intent to hold blockades in provinces that have not dropped COVID-19-related mandates: it is almost certain that this will occur. An ongoing blockade at Queens Park in Toronto is possible.

US convoys and blockades will encourage the protestors in the ongoing Ottawa blockade and their supporters at other blockades, particularly at border points.

Project HENDON has identified no concrete, specific, or credible threat with regard to the Freedom Convoy protest, Operation BearHug 2.0., or local solidarity protests.

However, the situation is volatile. The potential for an act of violence is likely increasing as the blockade continues, and as supporters across the country organize local and regional support actions.

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Approved:	Brent Elbers, D/S/Sergeant	<i>B. ELBERS</i>
Date:	10 February 2022	

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ANTICIPATED EVENT SCHEDULE – SUPPORT CONVOYS OR DEMONSTRATIONS

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This list is derived from information provided by the OPP and its partners. Many of these events have been identified through social media.

The overall situation is fluid: these events may change and spontaneous events may occur without warning.

PRIORITY EVENTS		
Name	Comments	
Ottawa Freedom Convoy 2022	See HENDON Report for information	
Toronto/Queen's Park	See HENDON Report for information	
Windsor Ambassador Bridge	See HENDON Report for information	
Sarnia	See HENDON Report for information	
Niagara Falls / Fort Erie Peace Bridge	See HENDON Report for information	

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022				
Time	Name	Location	Comments / Impact	
1800	Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy	Every night will be completing a loop from Hanover Walmart	No significant impact anticipated	
UNK	Ottawa: Convoy from Moncton, NB	Convoy to Ottawa	Organizers indicate they are staying for the weekend only. Unknown numbers and types of vehicles participating. Increased vehicles and protesters in Ottawa may increase pressure on police resources.	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022				
Time	Name	Location	Comments / Impact	
0800	Kawartha Lakes: Rise Up Kawartha Lakes Convoy to Ottawa	Departing from Lindsay Square Mall	Leaving Lindsay Square Mall every Friday until freedom is restored.	

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1400	Ontario: School Walkout to Lift Mandates	Ontario	No significant impact anticipated	
1700	Rally at House of Andrea Horwath – Leader of NDP	Locke St & Aberdeen Ave	Planned to run from 1700hrs – 1900hrs	
1800	Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy	Every night will be completing a loop from Hanover Walmart	No significant impact anticipated	
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2022				
Time	Name	Location	Comments / Impact	
UNK	Hwy 61 Convoy	Pigeon River Canada / US border crossing	Protest will take place off the Highway and will not impact traffic flow at all.	
0600	Saint-Honoré-de-Shenley: Convoy to Ottawa			
0700	Toronto: Buses to Ottawa	Departing from: Burlington Aldershot GO Station, Islington Subway, and Victoria Park Subway	Return boarding from Ottawa at 1730hrs	
1100	Haliburton Freedom Rally	Minden-Haliburton	Organizer has requested OPP assistance in Haliburton at Highway 118 and 35. He was hoping an officer could assist them with crossing the intersection.	
1100	Huntsville: Anti-Regulation Protest	Huntsville Place Mall	Huntsville Place Mall along Hwy 11 to Doe Lake Rd and return. No significant impact anticipated.	
1130	Bruce County Convoy	Port Elgin Walmart – Depart by 1200hrs.	Route: Southampton – Allenford – Tara – Burgoyne – End in Port Elgin	
1200	Tillsonburg: Oxford Freedom Convoy	400 Simcoe Street, Tillsonburg	OPP attempting to get in touch with organizers. Will be gathering at 1200hrs and leave by 1300hrs. Estimating 500 vehicles involved (farm tractors, passenger vehicles and tractor trailers), speeds 40-50 km/hr. No plans to block any traffic. Everyone will head home after the event concludes. The convoy will start in Tillsonburg and roll through Norwich, Ingersoll, and Woodstock. No significant impact anticipated.	

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1300	Montreal: Rally “Unis dans l’amour pour la liberté”		Some participants will go to Ottawa	
1300	Kingston: Slow Roll	HWY 38 carpool		
1300	Lindsay: Rise Up Kawartha Lakes Freedom Skate and Protest	Victoria Park	Every Saturday until freedom is restored (scheduled until 1500hrs)	
1400	London Freedom Convoy #2	4350 Wellington Rd S – Parking Lot	Meet at 1400hrs, Rollout at 1500hrs - Protesting no more mandates	
1400	Hamilton Protest at City Hall	Hamilton City Hall – 52 Jackson St W		
1400	Bracebridge: Anti-Regulation Protest	Memorial Park	To be joined by Huntsville convoy (no further details)	
1800	Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy	Every night will be completing a loop from Hanover Walmart	No significant impact anticipated	
UNK	Ottawa: Call for Freedom Rally	Parliament Hill	No further details	

Time	Name	Location	Comments / Impact
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0900	Ottawa: Blue Collar Convoy	Believed to be starting at GRCT Park	(btb two routes: o East Route: departing GRCT Park 0900hrs; stopping at the RA centre then to Parliament Hill o West Route: departing Canadian Tire Centre, 1000 Palladium Drive, Ottawa (0900hrs) to Parliament Hill	
1200	Fort Frances Convoy	Fort Frances Canada/ U.S. border crossing	Members of the group will protest in one lane of a two lane roadway. It will not impact the flow of traffic.	
1800	Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy	Every night will be completing a loop from Hanover Walmart	No significant impact anticipated	

Time	Name	Location	Comments / Impact
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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022			
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Time	Name	Location	Comments / Impact
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0700	Fort McMurray – Convoy to Ottawa	Ottawa	A Facebook event has been created in Facebook group “Freedom Convoy 2022 Fort McMurray” for a convoy from Fort McMurray to Ottawa from 2022/02/15 to 2022/02/18. The organizers appear to be [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The route is tentatively Fort McMurray, Edmonton, Lloydminster, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Kenora, Thunder Bay, Sault Sainte Marie, Sudbury, and Ottawa.
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APPROVED:	Brent Elbers, D/S/Sergeant	
DATE:	10 February 2022	

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